



GENERAL INFORMATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND DEFINITIONS FOR COMMISSION QUESTIONNAIRES

NON-MALLEABLE CAST IRON PIPE FITTINGS FROM CHINA Investigation No. 731-TA-990 (Final)

Further information.--If you have any questions concerning the enclosed questionnaire(s) or other matters related to this investigation, you may contact the following members of the Commission's staff (Fax 202-205-3205):

Valerie Newkirk, investigator (202-205-3190; E-mail vnewkirk@USITC.GOV) regarding general questions and trade and related information;

John Fry, auditor (202-708-4157; E-mail jfry@USITC.GOV) regarding financial information; and

Amelia Preece, economist (202-205-3250; E-mail apreece@USITC.GOV) regarding pricing, market, and related information.

GENERAL INFORMATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND DEFINITIONS

GENERAL INFORMATION

Background.--This investigation was instituted in response to a petition filed on February 21, 2002, by counsel on behalf of Anvil International, Inc., Portsmouth, NH, and Ward Manufacturing, Inc., Blossburg, PA. Antidumping duties may be assessed on the subject imports as a result of this investigation if the Commission makes an affirmative determination of injury, threat, or material retardation, and if the U.S. Department of Commerce makes an affirmative determination of dumping.

Additional questionnaires will be supplied promptly upon request, or photocopies of the enclosed questionnaire(s) may be used. Address all correspondence to the United States International Trade Commission, Washington, DC 20436. Hearing-impaired individuals can obtain information regarding this investigation via the Commission's TDD terminal (202-205-1810).

Due date of questionnaire(s).--Return the completed questionnaire(s) to the United States International Trade Commission by no later than December 2, 2002. Although the enclosed postpaid envelope may be used to return the completed questionnaire, use of an overnight mail service may be necessary to ensure that your response actually reaches the Commission by December 2, 2002. If you do not use the enclosed envelope, please make sure the completed questionnaire is sent to the attention of **Valerie Newkirk**. **Return only one copy of the completed questionnaire(s), but please keep a copy for your records so that you can refer to it if the Commission staff contacts you with any questions during the course of the investigation.**

Service of questionnaire response(s).--In the event that your firm is a party to this investigation, you are required to serve a copy of the questionnaire(s), once completed, on parties to the proceeding that are subject to administrative protective order (see 19 CFR § 207.7). A list of such parties is maintained by the Commission's Secretary and may be obtained by calling 202-205-1803. A certificate of service must accompany the copy of the completed questionnaire(s) you submit (see 19 CFR § 207.7).

Confidentiality.--The commercial and financial data furnished in response to the enclosed questionnaire(s) that reveal the individual operations of your firm will be treated as confidential by the Commission to the extent that such data are not otherwise available to the public and will not be disclosed except as may be required by law (see 19 U.S.C. § 1677f). Such confidential information will not be published in a manner that will reveal the individual operations of your firm; however, nonnumerical characterizations of numerical business proprietary information (such as discussion of trends) will be treated as confidential business information only at the request of the submitter for good cause shown.

Verification.--The information submitted in the enclosed questionnaire(s) is subject to audit and verification by the Commission. To facilitate possible verification of data, please keep all your workpapers and supporting documents used in the preparation of the questionnaire response(s).

GENERAL INFORMATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND DEFINITIONS--Continued

GENERAL INFORMATION--Continued

Release of information.--The information provided by your firm in response to the questionnaire(s), as well as any other business proprietary information submitted by your firm to the Commission in connection with the investigation, may become subject to, and released under, the administrative protective order provisions of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. § 1677f) and section 207.7 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (19 CFR § 207.7). This means that certain lawyers and other authorized individuals may temporarily be given access to the information for use solely in connection with this investigation; those individuals would be subject to severe penalties if the information were divulged to unauthorized individuals.

INSTRUCTIONS

Answer all questions.--Do not leave any question or section blank unless a questionnaire expressly directs you to skip over certain questions or sections. If the answer to any question is "none," write "none." **If information is not readily available from your records in exactly the form requested, furnish carefully prepared estimates--designated as such by the letter "E"--and explain the basis of your estimates.** Answers to questions and any necessary comments or explanations should be supplied in the space provided or on separate sheets attached to the appropriate page of the questionnaire(s). If your firm is completing more than one questionnaire in connection with this investigation (i.e., a producer, importer, and/or purchaser questionnaire), you need not respond to duplicated questions in the questionnaires.

Consolidate all U.S. establishments.--Report the requested data for your establishment(s) located in the United States. **Firms operating more than one establishment should combine the data for all establishments into a single report.**

GENERAL INFORMATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND DEFINITIONS--Continued

DEFINITIONS

Subject non-malleable cast iron pipe fittings--Finished and unfinished non-malleable cast iron pipe fittings with an inside diameter (I.D.) ranging from 1/4 inch to 6 inches whether threaded or un-threaded, regardless of industry or proprietary specifications. The subject fittings include elbows, ells, tees, crosses, and reducers as well as flanged fittings. These pipe fittings are also known as cast iron pipe fittings or gray iron pipe fittings. These cast iron pipe fittings are normally produced to ASTM A-126 and ASME B.16.4 specifications and are threaded to ASME B1.20.1 specifications. Most building codes require that these products are Underwriters Laboratories (UL) certified. **The scope does not include cast iron soil pipe fittings or grooved fittings or grooved couplings.** Subject non-malleable cast iron pipe fittings are classifiable in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTS) subheading 7307.11.00 (and recorded under statistical reporting numbers 7307.11.00.30 and 7307.11.00.60). Throughout the questionnaires, unless otherwise specified, the terms “non-malleable cast iron pipe fittings,” “non-malleable pipe fittings,” or “malleable fittings” refer to products covered by the subject non-malleable cast iron pipe fittings described above.

Subject ductile cast iron pipe fittings--Fittings that are made out of ductile iron that have the same physical characteristics as the gray or cast iron fittings subject to the scope above or which have the same physical characteristics and are produced to ASME B.16.3, ASME B.16.4, or ASTM A-395 specifications, threaded to ASME B1.20.1 specifications and UL certified, regardless of metallurgical differences between gray and ductile iron, are also included in the scope of this petition. **These ductile fittings do not include grooved fittings or grooved couplings. Ductile cast iron fittings with mechanical joint ends (MJ), or Push On ends (PO), or flanged ends and produced to the American water works association (AWWA) specifications--AWWA C110 or AWWA C153 are not included.** Subject ductile cast iron pipe fittings are classifiable in HTS subheading 7307.19.30 (and recorded under statistical reporting numbers 7307.19.30.60 and 7307.19.30.85). Throughout the questionnaires, unless otherwise specified, the terms “ductile cast iron pipe fittings,” “ductile pipe fittings,” or “ductile fittings” refer to products covered by the subject ductile cast iron pipe fittings described above.

Non-malleable/ductile cast iron pipe fittings--Includes both (1) the subject non-malleable cast iron pipe fittings, as defined above, and (2) the subject ductile cast iron pipe fittings, as defined above.

Although the following fittings are **not** subject to this investigation, the Commission requires that certain information be provided by U.S. producers, importers, and purchasers in order to make its domestic like product determination.

Flanged ductile cast iron pipe fittings (flanged ductile pipe fittings)--Cast iron pipe fittings, with an I.D. ranging from 1/4 inch to 6 inches, made of ductile iron that have one or more flanged ends and are produced to AWWA C110 or AWWA C153 specifications. Ductile flanged cast iron pipe fittings are classifiable in HTS subheading 7307.19.30 (and recorded under statistical reporting number 7307.19.30.70).

Non-malleable/ductile cast iron pipe fittings with an inside diameter (I.D.) over 6 inches--Cast iron pipe fittings of non-malleable or ductile iron which would be included in the definitions of either (1) subject non-malleable cast iron pipe fittings, or (2) subject ductile cast iron pipe fittings, as described above except that the inside diameter exceeds 6 inches.

Non-malleable/ductile grooved cast iron pipe fittings--Cast iron pipe fittings of non-malleable or ductile iron in which a split coupling is attached to a circumferential groove close to the end of each piece to be joined. A gasket inside the coupling seals against the pipe and the coupling. The grooved fittings for which information is being collected range in I.D. from 1/4 inch to 6 inches.

GENERAL INFORMATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND DEFINITIONS--Continued

DEFINITIONS--Continued

Firm--An individual proprietorship, partnership, joint venture, association, corporation (including any subsidiary corporation), business trust, cooperative, trustee in bankruptcy, or receiver under decree of any court.

Related firm--A firm that your firm solely or jointly owned, managed, or otherwise controlled; a firm that solely or jointly owned, managed, or otherwise controlled your firm; and/or a firm that was solely or jointly owned, managed, or otherwise controlled by a firm that also solely or jointly owned, managed, or otherwise controlled your firm.

Establishment--Each facility of a firm in the United States involved in the production, importation, and/or purchase of non-malleable cast iron pipe fittings (as defined above), including auxiliary facilities operated in conjunction with (whether or not physically separate from) such facilities.

United States--For purposes of this investigation, the 50 States, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the District of Columbia.

Importer--Any person or firm engaged, either directly or through a parent company or subsidiary, in importing non-malleable cast iron pipe fittings (as defined above) into the United States from a foreign manufacturer or through its selling agent.

Imports--Those products identified for Customs purposes as imports for consumption for which your firm was the importer of record (i.e., was responsible for paying any import duty) or consignee (i.e., to which the merchandise was first delivered).

Import quantities--Quantities reported should be net of returns.

Import values--Values reported should be landed, duty-paid values at the U.S. port of entry, including ocean freight and insurance costs, brokerage charges, and import duties (i.e., all charges except inland freight in the United States).

Purchaser--Any person or firm engaged, either directly or through a parent company or subsidiary, in purchasing non-malleable cast iron pipe fittings (as defined above) from another firm that produces, imports, or otherwise distributes non-malleable cast iron pipe fittings.

Purchases--Purchases from all sources, NOT including direct imports from foreign producers (which should be reported in an importer questionnaire).

Purchase quantities--Quantities reported should be net of returns.

Purchase values--Values reported should be net values (i.e., gross purchase values less all discounts, allowances, rebates, and the value of returned goods), delivered to your U.S. receiving point.

Shipments--Shipments of products produced in or imported by your U.S. establishment(s). Include shipments to the contracting firm of product produced by your firm under a toll agreement.

Shipment quantities--Quantities reported should be net of returns.

GENERAL INFORMATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND DEFINITIONS--Continued

DEFINITIONS--Continued

Shipment values.--Values reported should be net values (i.e., gross sales values less all discounts, allowances, rebates, prepaid freight, and the value of returned goods), f.o.b. your U.S. producing establishment(s) (for PRODUCER QUESTIONNAIRES) or U.S. point of shipment (for IMPORTER QUESTIONNAIRES). The value of domestic shipments to the contracting firm under a toll agreement is the conversion fee (including profit).

Types of shipments:

U.S. shipments.--Commercial shipments, internal consumption, and transfers to related firms within the United States.

Commercial shipments.--Shipments, other than internal consumption and transfers to related firms, within the United States.

Internal consumption.--Product consumed internally by your firm.

Transfers to related firms.--Shipments made to related domestic firms.

Export shipments.--Shipments to destinations outside the United States, including shipments to related firms.

Inventories.--Finished goods inventory, not raw materials or work-in-progress.

The following definitions apply only to the PRODUCER QUESTIONNAIRE.

Average production capacity.--The level of production that your establishment(s) could reasonably have expected to attain during the specified periods. Assume normal operating conditions (i.e., using equipment and machinery in place and ready to operate; normal operating levels (hours per week/weeks per year) and time for downtime, maintenance, repair, and cleanup; and a typical or representative product mix).

Toll agreement.--Agreement between two firms whereby the first firm furnishes the raw materials and the second firm uses the raw materials to produce a product that it then returns to the first firm with a charge for processing costs, overhead, etc.

Production.--All production in your U.S. establishment(s), including production consumed internally within your firm and production for another firm under a toll agreement.

PRWs.--Production and related workers, including working supervisors and all nonsupervisory workers (including group leaders and trainees) engaged in fabricating, processing, assembling, inspecting, receiving, storage, handling, packing, warehousing, shipping, trucking, hauling, maintenance, repair, janitorial and guard services, product development, auxiliary production for plant's own use (e.g., power plant), recordkeeping, and other services closely associated with the above production operations.

Average number employed.--Add the number of employees, both full-time and part-time, for the 12 pay periods ending closest to the 15th of the month and divide that total by 12. For the January-September periods, calculate similarly and divide by 9.

GENERAL INFORMATION, INSTRUCTIONS, AND DEFINITIONS--Continued

DEFINITIONS--Continued

Hours worked.--Include time paid for sick leave, holidays, and vacation time. Include overtime hours actually worked; do not convert overtime pay to its equivalent in straight-time hours.

Wages paid.--Total wages paid before deductions of any kind (e.g., withholding taxes, old-age and unemployment insurance, group insurance, union dues, bonds, etc.). Include wages paid directly by your firm for overtime, holidays, vacations, and sick leave.

Fiscal year.--The 12-month period between settlement of your firm's financial accounts.

Purchases other than direct imports.--Purchases from U.S. producers, U.S. importers, and other U.S. sources.